



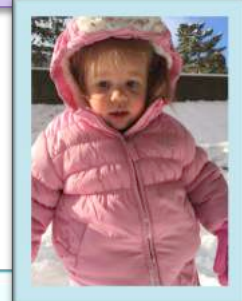
ECRC Newsletter

Spring 2018 • January/ February

Dear Families and Friends of the ECRC,

We are happy to welcome everyone to the spring session! We sincerely missed each and every one of you and look forward to our fun and exciting semester ahead!

We started out the semester with lots of snow on our playground, and we couldn't wait to explore this wintry environment. We have been busy sledding, building snow people, and figuring out how to manipulate the play equipment differently in the cold. Below, check out some of our fun in the snow!



ECRC Curriculum

The month of February has us celebrating many special holidays. The first week will be all about love and kindness, as we embrace Valentine's Day. Then, we will be learning about the Lunar New Year, the year of the Dog. We will finish up the month recognizing Children's Dental Health Month by exploring dental hygiene, such as teeth brushing and flossing. Here are some great books to celebrate these special occasions with your child:

- My First Chinese New Year by Karen Katz
- The Day it Rained Hearts by Felicia Bond
- The Kissing Hand by Audrey Penn
- Going to the Dentist by Anne Civardi

-Keely O'Connell

Updates from Corinne

Tuition due dates:

Monday, January 22, 2018
Monday, February 26, 2018
Monday, March 26, 2018

Tax ID

We can provide documentation for tax purposes. If needed, please contact me.

Winter Clothing

There is so much for our students to explore and learn from outdoors, even in the winter! We will go outside as often as possible. Please make sure your child has mittens, a hat, boots, and snow pants daily for outdoor play.

Thanks! - Corinne Eggleston- Associate Director

Upcoming Events & Reminders

- **Bring a Bear/Pajama Day! – Thursday, February 1 & Friday, February 2**

On both of these days, students are encouraged to bring their favorite teddy bear and wear their pajamas to celebrate the end of our hibernation theme. We will write stories about our bears hibernating in the cold winter, pretend to sleep in our caves, and discuss how animals prepare for the wintry weather.

- **Valentine's Day Exchange – Tuesday, February 13 & Wednesday, February 14**

We are looking forward to our Valentine's Day Card Exchange! Please bring "signed" Valentines cards for your child to pass out to each of their friends. Please **do not** put recipients names on each card. An invitation with details for our exchange is included with this newsletter.



University at Buffalo

Graduate School of Education



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Our Favorite Activity

With snow and ice on the ground, we were excited to bring these materials right into our classroom. Our favorite activity this month was painting with watercolors on ice and then with the ice! This activity allowed our students to be creative as they experimented with color mixing, and also provided an opportunity for the students to gain strength in their fine motor muscles. Below, check out Daniel, Bingcheng, Muhan, Colette, and Jacob.

- Miss Alice & Miss Wei

Happy Birthday to...
Colette – February 16



We love music! Nadia played with Miss Sarah's ukulele to hear the different pitches and notes.



Daniel and Leo made their own winter mittens by writing their name and designing each one.

Try this at Home

Your 2-3 year old is becoming more and more independent, as they continue to develop their self-help skills. Allow your child to put on their own mittens and hat and practice zipping their own coat.



Christopher hibernated with his bear in our classroom cave to prepare for the cold winter.

Nathan practiced writing the word "hibernation," as he discussed which animals hibernate in the winter.





Our Favorite Activity

Letter knowledge is an important foundation to later literacy development. As we make our way through the alphabet, we focus on many aspects of the letters: identifying the letter, the sound the letter makes, and how to form the letter. This corresponds with writing, as students begin to incorporate this letter knowledge into new words! We love to write in our classroom, and we always make writing purposeful. Below, you can see Connor and Nolan writing a story about their day with Frosty the Snowman and Lochlan designing his own mittens, identifying each mitten with his name.

- Miss Norline & Miss Diana

Happy Birthday to...

Beau – January 3
Miss Diana – January 4
Natalie – January 14
Konner Shea – January 23



Rose and Miss Amanda, a student intern, made caves for the hibernating bears.



Dramatic play encourages students to actively experiment with the social and emotional roles of life. We loved pretending to work at a hot cocoa stand. Yubin makes the hot cocoa, while Linneae and Brigetta sell the yummy treat to Isha.



Nour and Arya enjoyed measuring volume between different containers.

Try this at Home

Inside Hopscotch

When you can't play hopscotch outside, you can play it inside! It is easy to make a hopscotch board on the floor with masking tape. This activity encourages your child to develop their gross motor skills and practice recognizing numerals.



ECRC PM Preschool

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Our Favorite Activity

The winter weather brings about many changes in our environment, impacting how the animals acclimate to the cold. We have been incorporating and scaffolding new vocabulary for the students to use to describe these changes, such as hibernation, adaptation, and migration. Marine animals, like whales, adapt by building a thick insulation of blubber – to understand this adaptation, we created an experiment for the kids to explore:

- Fill 2 bowls with water and ice.
- Put Crisco in a Ziploc bag. This will act as the “blubber.”
- Encourage your child to place one hand in one bowl of ice and discuss how cold the hand feels. Then wrap the other hand with the Crisco Ziploc bag. This bag will act as an insulator, warming up the hand in the ice.

Lucas loved this experiment, and we hope you do too!

- Miss Brianna & Miss Paige

Happy Birthday to...
Miss Brianna – February 13



We love writing. Eden, Juju, and Janice have been practicing new letters and the correct way to hold a writing utensil.

Try this at Home

Freeze Dance

Young children create movement spontaneously. Freeze dance is a fun gross motor activity and encourages your child to follow the directions. Play some fun music and dance around, then pause it and tell your child to freeze!



When young children play a musical instrument, they begin to learn cause and effect. Lulu and Achilles loved exploring the ukulele with Miss Sarah.



Our Favorite Activity

This month, we have taken an interest in how we adapt during these cold winter months. This led us to explore igloos – we have discussed what their purpose is and created our own using sugar cubes. Below, Madeline counted the floors, as she was careful to balance each sugar cube. This is a fun activity to do at home that encourages your child to practice fine motor skills and incorporate science and math.

- Mr. Stanley & Miss Devon

Happy Birthday to...

Miss Christine – January 31
Owen – February 26



Welcome Miss Devon!

We are excited to introduce our newest member of our teaching team, Miss Devon. Pursuing her Masters in Early Childhood and Childhood Education, she comes to us with many years of experience with young children. She is excited to join our staff and work with each of your children! 😊



Anthony and Arya worked to strengthen their gross motor muscles while moving through an obstacle course.



Isha and Nolan mixed food coloring with snow to create their own watercolors.



We have been focusing on the letter 'B' and we found it while on a walk!



Audrey used tongs to count the snowballs.

